

breakdown in the rule of law, politically motivated violence, and the political and economic instability in the southern African region, I have exercised my statutory authority and issued an Executive Order which, except to the extent provided for in regulations, orders, directives, or licenses that may be issued pursuant to this order, and notwithstanding any contract entered into or any license or permit granted prior to the effective date:

- blocks all property and interests in property of the individuals listed in the Annex to the order;
- prohibits any transaction or dealing by United States persons or within the United States in property or interests in property blocked pursuant to the order, including the making or receiving of any contribution of funds, goods, or services to or for the benefit of the persons designated pursuant to the order.

The Secretary of the Treasury is further authorized to designate any person determined, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to be owned or controlled by, or acting or purporting to act directly or indirectly for or on behalf of, any persons designated in or pursuant to the order. The Secretary of the Treasury is also authorized in the exercise of my authorities under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to implement these measures in consultation with the Secretary of State. All Federal agencies are directed to take actions within their authority to carry out the provisions of the Executive Order.

This Executive Order further demonstrates the U.S. commitment to supporting Zimbabwe's democratic evolution, and strengthens our cooperation with the European Union in efforts to promote that evolution. The European Union has acted to freeze the assets of 79 individuals responsible for the political, economic, and social deterioration of Zimbabwe. With the exception of two individuals no longer associated with the Government of Zimbabwe, this order encompasses all those identified by the European Union.

I have enclosed a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

George W. Bush

The White House,
March 6, 2003.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 7.

Statement on Senate Ratification of the Moscow Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions

March 7, 2003

I commend the Senate's action to give its consent to ratification of the Moscow Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions that President Putin and I signed on May 24, 2002, in Moscow, Russia. I also thank Senator Lugar and Senator Biden for their leadership in successfully negotiating a unanimous, bipartisan vote in support of the Moscow Treaty.

This historic agreement will reduce the nuclear arsenals of the United States and Russia to their lowest levels in decades. The treaty will benefit both our peoples and contribute to a more secure world.

The Moscow Treaty helps lay to rest the legacies of cold war competition and suspicion and marks a fundamentally new era in relations between the United States and Russia. The strategic offensive reductions codified and made binding under international law in this Treaty are essential steps toward achieving greater political, economic, and security cooperation between our two countries.

Shortly after assuming office, I pledged to the American people my commitment to achieve a credible strategic deterrent with the lowest-possible number of nuclear weapons consistent with our national security needs, including our obligations to our allies. Under the Moscow Treaty, the United States and Russia will both reduce their operationally deployed strategic nuclear warheads to a level of 1700–2200 by December 31, 2012—nearly two-thirds below current levels. At my direction, the United States has

already embarked upon its reductions by starting to deactivate the Peacekeeper missiles located at Francis E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming, and by taking the first steps to remove four sea-launched ballistic missile submarines from strategic service.

I am hopeful that the Russian Duma and Federation Council will soon give their approval to ratification, so that President Putin and I can exchange instruments of ratification and the Moscow Treaty can enter into force.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

March 1

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

March 2

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush attended a gala at Ford's Theatre.

March 3

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Alvaro Uribe of Colombia to discuss efforts to release U.S. citizens taken hostage by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the war on terrorism, and the situation in Iraq.

The President then had intelligence and FBI briefings.

In the afternoon, the President participated in a roundtable discussion with regional news reporters.

The President announced his intention to nominate Diane M. Stuart to be Director of the Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate C. Stewart Verdery, Jr., to be As-

sistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Border and Transportation Security Policy.

The President announced his intention to appoint Bruce M. Carnes as Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Homeland Security.

March 4

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee of India to discuss the situations in Iraq and South Asia. He also had a telephone conversation with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt to discuss the March 1 Arab League Summit in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, and the upcoming Islamic Conference Summit in Doha, Qatar, and the situations in Iraq and the Middle East.

The President then had intelligence and FBI briefings.

In the afternoon, the President met with leaders of the Digital Freedom Initiative, including Commerce Secretary Donald L. Evans, U.S. Agency for International Development Administrator Andrew S. Natsios, and Peace Corps Director Gaddi H. Vasquez.

Later in the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with President Paul Kagame of Rwanda to discuss initiatives to combat HIV/AIDS, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and the situation in Iraq.

The President announced his intention to nominate William E. Moschella to be Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to appoint Mark A. Forman as Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government, Office of Management and Budget.

The President announced his intention to appoint James S. Gilmore III and Winston Wilkinson as members of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Air Force Academy.

March 5

In the morning, the President had a breakfast meeting with Speaker of the House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert, House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, and Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle to discuss international issues.